

# 증례로 살펴보는 B형간염 가이드라인과 간염치료

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신 동 현





# Hepatitis

# Today's topic

1. HBV 가이드라인 리뷰

2. 증례 검토

# What has been changed so far?

Time	1976	2016
Seoul sights		
HBV	<p>Presence (O)</p> <p>Vaccination (X)</p> <p>Suppression of replication (X)</p> <p>Eradication (X)</p>	<p>Presence (O)</p> <p>Vaccination (O)</p> <p>Suppression of replication (O)</p> <p>Eradication (X)</p>

# How to decide a target group for treatment?

## Cure << Control

At risk of hepatic complications

Treatment **proven** to reduce complications

Benefit > Risks



# What factors is associated with hepatic complications

## Viral factors

- ✓ HBeAg (Hazard ratio [HR], 4.2)
- ✓ HBV DNA level >  $10^4$  copies/ml (HR, 2.7)
- ✓ HBV DNA level >  $10^5$  copies/ml (HR, 8.9 - 10.7)

## Host factors

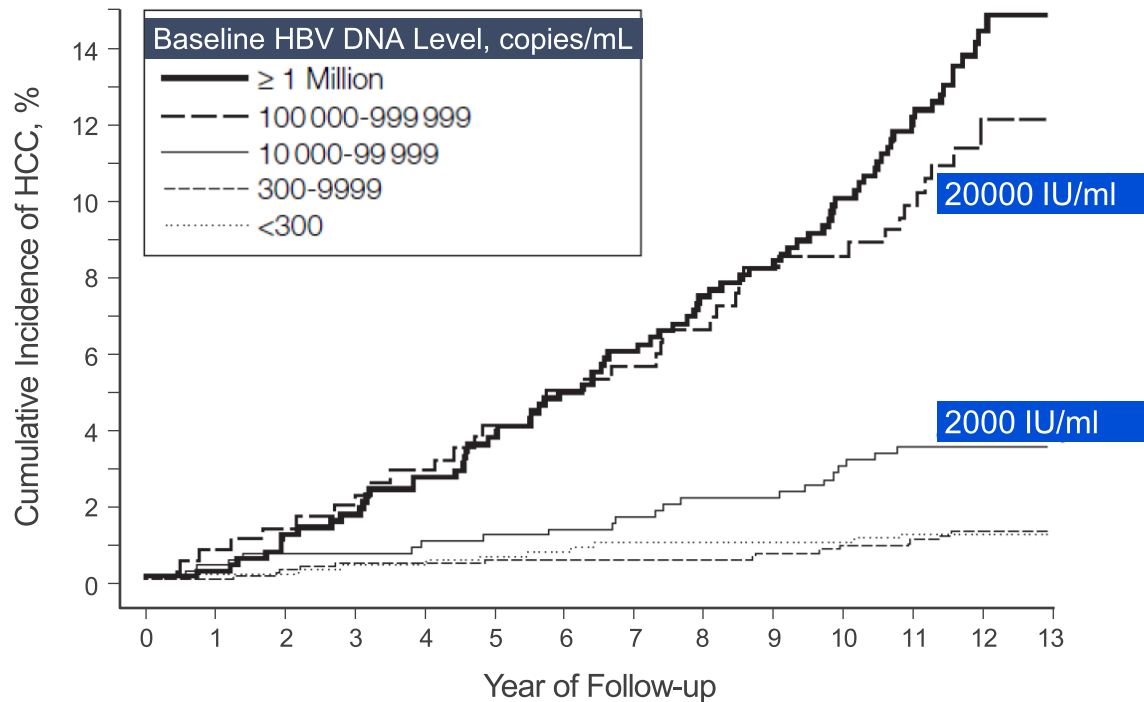
- ✓ Male gender (HR, 3.0)
- ✓ Advanced age (HR, 3.6 – 8.3)
- ✓ Alcohol consumption (HR, 2.6)
- ✓ Cigarette smoking (HR, 1.7)

## Other factors

- ✓ Severity and frequency of ALT elevations
- ✓ HCV/HDV coinfection, immunosuppression, HBV genotype C, presence of HBV precore or core promoter mutations, obesity

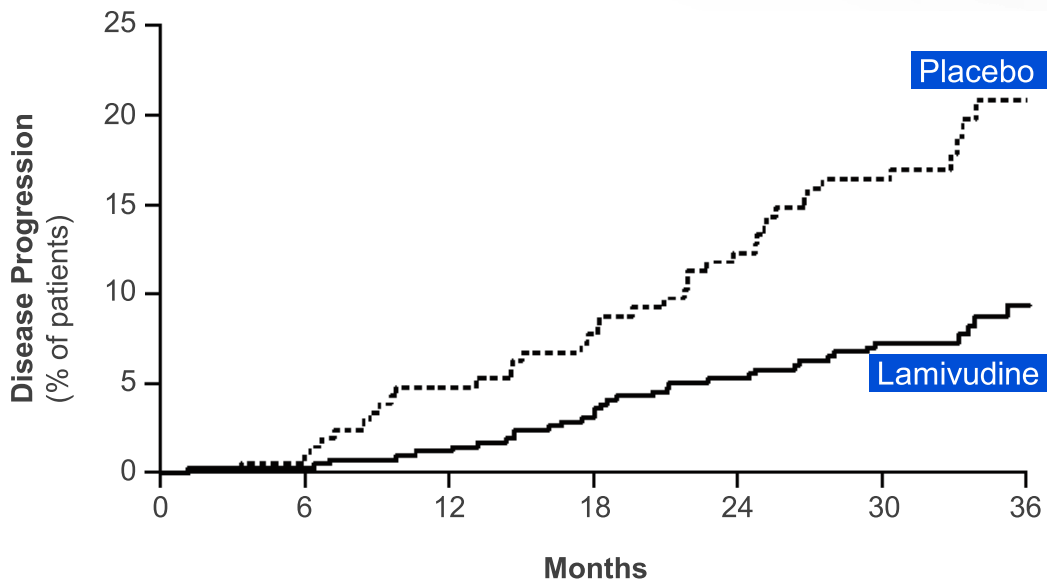
# HBV DNA and HCC: REVEAL study

Entire Cohort (N=3653)



Chen et al., JAMA 2006;295:65

# Evidence that treatment can meet the 'goal'



No. at Risk

placebo	215	209	198	184	173	153	43
Lamivudine	436	429	417	400	385	347	122

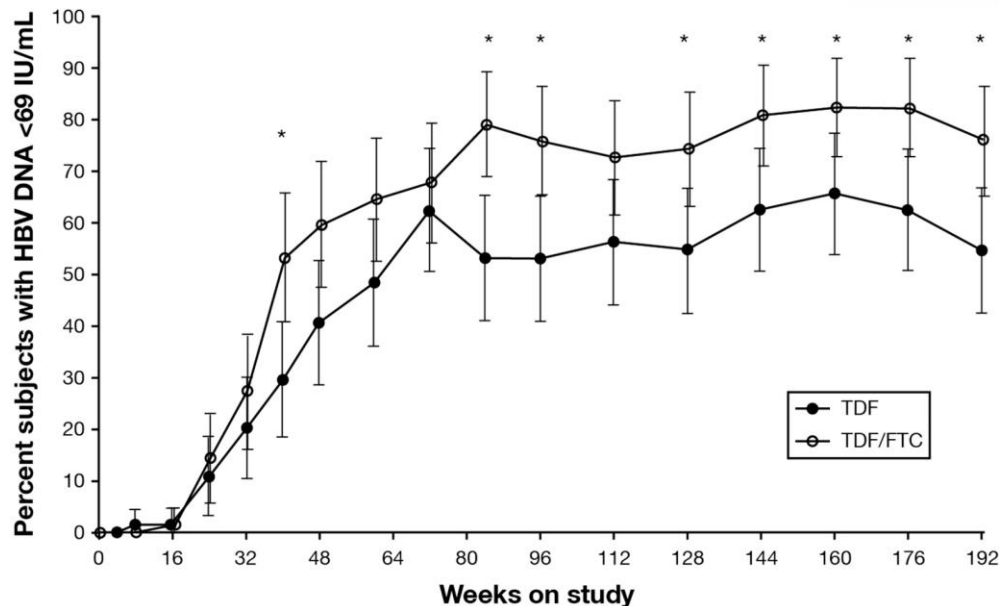
Liaw et al, N Engl J Med 2004;351:15

Why not treat **all** CHB patients  
with high serum HBV DNA levels?

	Immune tolerant	HBeAg-positive CHB (immune clearance)	Immune control (low or non-replicative)	HBeAg-negative CHB (immune escape)
HBeAg	<b>Positive</b> (2000-5000 PEIU/ml)	<b>Positive</b> (100-1000 PEIU/ml)	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Negative</b>
Anti-HBe				
HBsAg(log IU/ml)	4.5-5	4.0-4.5	2.9-3.0	3.3-3.9
Anti-HBs				
HBV DNA(IU/ml)	>20000	>20000	<2000	>2000
Viral diversity (PC/C ORF)				
Serum ALT level (U/l)	Persistently normal	Elevated(1-2X) and fluctuating	Normal	Elevated and fluctuating
Liver histology	Normal or mild hepatitis	Moderate to severe hepatitis	Normal to mild hepatitis. May have cirrhosis	Moderate to severe hepatitis. May have cirrhosis
Intra-hepatic HBV replicative, intermediates	rcDNA/cccDNA (100-1000) >1 cccDNA/cell	rcDNA/cccDNA (10-1000) 1 cccDNA/cell (0.1-10/cell)	rcDNA/cccDNA (10-100) 0.1 cccDNA/cell (0.001-1/cell)	rcDNA/cccDNA (100-1000) >1 cccDNA/cell (0.1-10/cell)

Normal or  
mild hepatitis in  
immune tolerant phase

# Effects of TDF on HBe (e+) with High viral load and normal ALT levels



TDF	N=64	61	62	62	62	61	60	59	58	57	55	55	53	53
TDF/FTC	N=62	61	60	58	57	57	57	56	57	56	56	55	55	54

\* $P < .05$

Chan HL et al., *Gastroenterology* 2014;146:1240

# Effects of AVT in patients with low viremia

No data yet.

However, generally, patients has very favorable prognosis when they are in “inactive carrier state”.



# Key concept

01

In immune tolerance phase and inactive carrier phase, there is a minimal risk of disease progression.

02

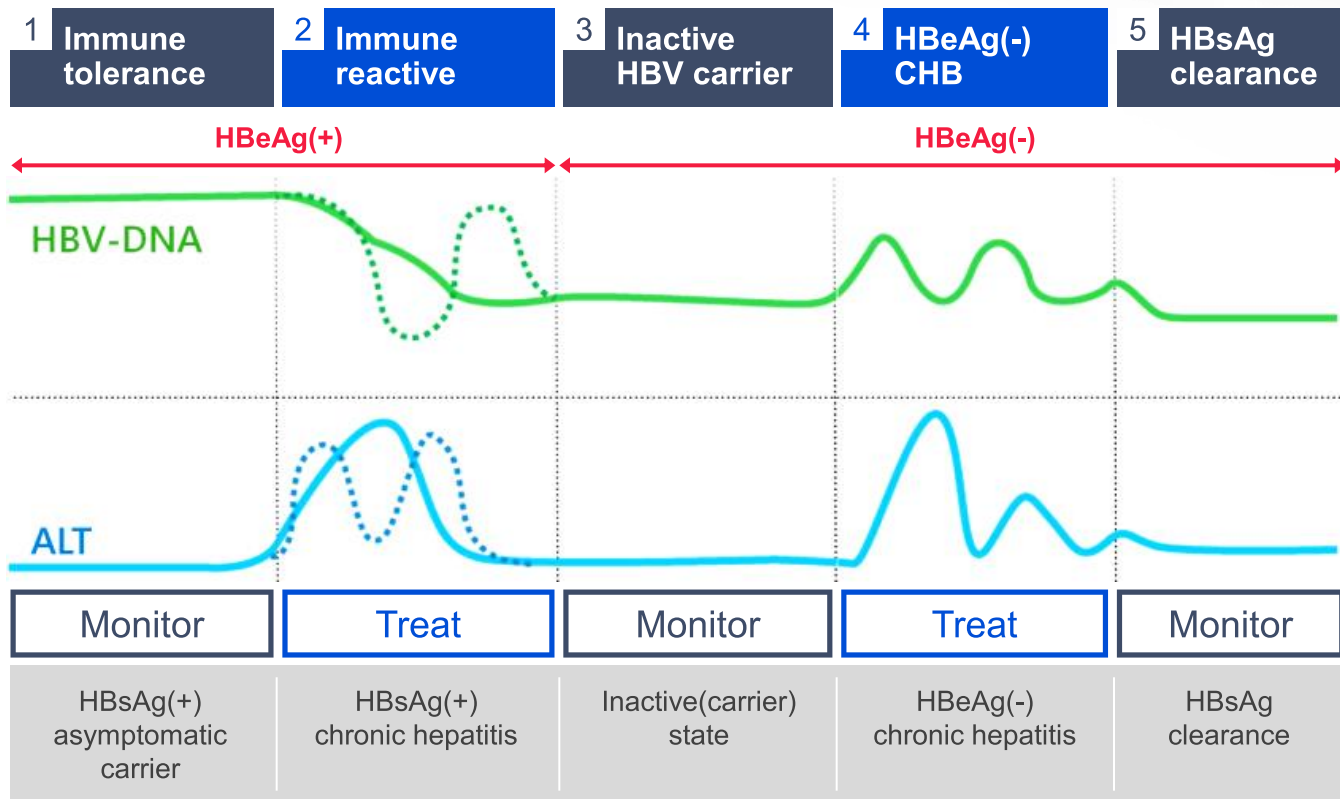
There is no effective treatment that has proven benefit in this setting.

03

In these two phases, treatment is generally not recommended.

How can I know CHB phase in  
individual patient?

# Disease course of CHB



# Immune tolerance vs. clearance

Similarities: HBeAg+, high DNA

## Immune tolerance phase

- ✓ Most are **under 30 years** of age
- ✓ Persistently **normal ALT** level
- ✓ Usually **very high HBV DNA** level  
(No suspicion of advanced disease in radiologic evaluation)

## Immune clearance phase

- ✓ **Fluctuating ALT** level
- ✓ **Fluctuating** DNA level

# Inactive carrier vs. immune reactivation

Similarities: HBeAg negative

Inactive carrier

- ✓ Low level of HBV DNA ( $< 2,000$  IU/mL)
- ✓ Normal ALT
- ✓ HBeAg/anti-Hbe (-/+)
- ✓ Low level of quantitative HBsAg ( $< 1,000$  IU/mL)

Immune reactivation phase

- ✓ Fluctuating ALT
- ✓ Fluctuating HBV DNA

# Key concept

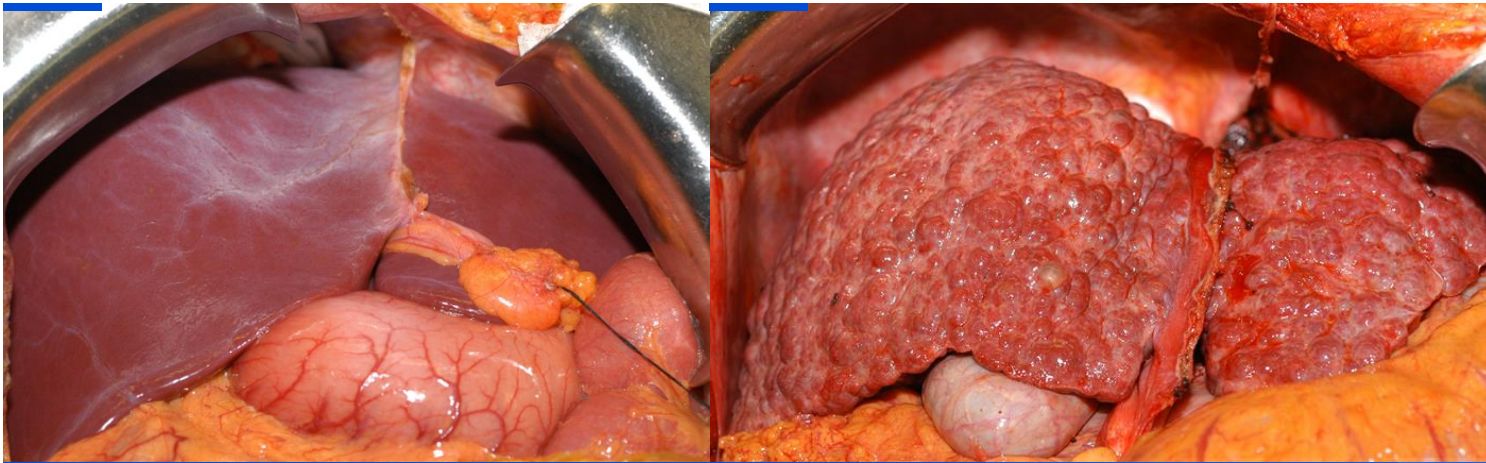
By adding ALT & HBV DNA levels as an indicator for treatment initiation,  
one can distinguish CHB phase, that requires therapy

# Treatment criteria for CHB

Liver disease severity	Liver society	HBV DNA, IU/mL	ALT
Chronic hepatitis	EASL, 2012	$\geq 2,000$	$\geq \text{ULN}$
	AASLD, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times \text{ULN}$
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times \text{ULN}$



# Cirrhosis



The levels of AST/ALT **should not be used** as criteria for starting antiviral therapy in patients with liver cirrhosis

- ✓ They already have significant hepatic fibrosis
- ✓ They frequently have nearly normal AST/ALT levels.

# Limited role of ALT in cirrhosis patients

## Hepatocellular Carcinoma Risk of Compensated Cirrhosis Patients with Elevated HBV DNA Levels according to Serum Aminotransferase Levels

Junggyu Lee,<sup>1\*</sup> Dong Hyun Sinn,<sup>1\*</sup>  
Jung Hee Kim,<sup>1</sup> Geum-Youn Gwak,<sup>1</sup>  
Hye Seung Kim,<sup>2</sup> Sin-Ho Jung,<sup>2</sup>  
Yong-Han Paik,<sup>1</sup> Moon Seok Choi,<sup>1</sup>  
Joon Hyeok Lee,<sup>1</sup> Kwang Cheol Koh,<sup>1</sup>  
Byung Chul Yoo,<sup>1</sup> and Seung Woon Paik<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Biostatistics and Clinical Epidemiology Center, Samsung Medical Center, Seoul, Korea

\*Junggyu Lee and Dong Hyun Sinn contributed equally to this work.

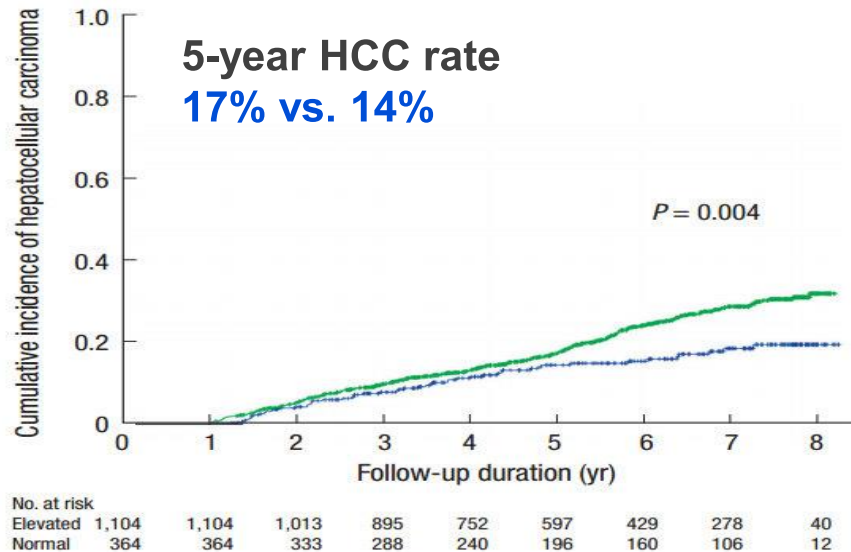
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Sometimes, hepatitis B virus (HBV)-related cirrhotic patients are closely followed-up for the elevation of aminotransferase levels and prompt antiviral therapy (AVT). We analyzed the long-term risk according to the aminotransferase levels in a retrospective, HBV-related, compensated cirrhosis patients with elevated HBV DNA levels ( $\geq 2,000$  IU/mL). Based on aminotransferase levels, patients were divided into normal group ( $< 40$  U/L,  $n = 364$ ) and elevated group ( $\geq 40$  U/L,  $n = 1,104$ ). During follow-up (range: 1.0–8.2 yr), HCC developed in 296 patients. The cumulative HCC incidence rate was higher in patients with elevated aminotransferase levels (17% vs. 14%,  $P = 0.004$ ) but was not low in normal aminotransferase level (17% vs. 14%,  $P = 0.004$ ). In the elevated group, 270/364 (74%) patients with normal aminotransferase levels, and AVT was initiated. The median time to start AVT was longer (17.9 vs. 2.4 months,  $P < 0.001$ ) in patients with normal aminotransferase levels. The duration is associated with lowered HCC risk, indicating that AVT should be strongly considered even for those with normal aminotransferase levels.

**Keywords:** Liver Neoplasms; Antiviral Therapy; Aminotransferase



# Compensated cirrhosis patients with low viremia

65/M

Alleged chronic hepatitis B

No treatment history of chronic hepatitis B

**Past medical history:** Hypertension diagnosed 1 year ago, and taking medication

**Social history:** alcohol – social, smoking - none

**Family history:** HBV (+), HCC (-)

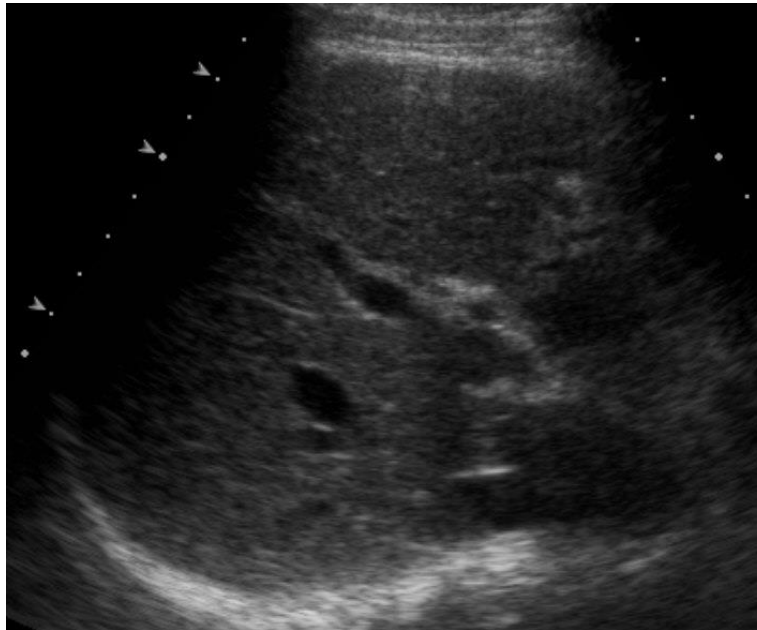
**ROS:** asymptomatic

**PE:** nonspecific

# Clinical course

● 2008. 3

- ✓ CBC: 4850-14.0- **125k**
- ✓ PT: 1.10 INR
- ✓ Albumin: 4.0 g/dl
- ✓ Bilirubin = 1.0 mg/dl
- ✓ AST/ALT: 30/17 U/L
- ✓ AFP: 2.2 ng/ml
- ✓ HBV DNA: **39 IU/mL**
- ✓ HBeAg (-) HBeAb (+)
- ✓ US: coarse echotexture

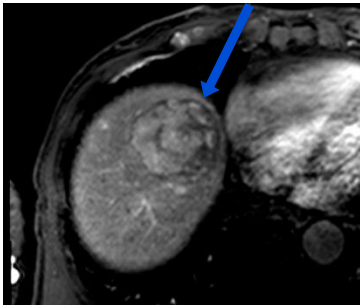


What is  
your  
next  
choice?

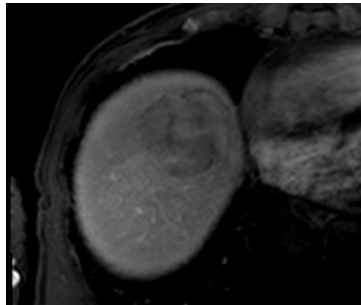
# Clinical course

● 2012. 6

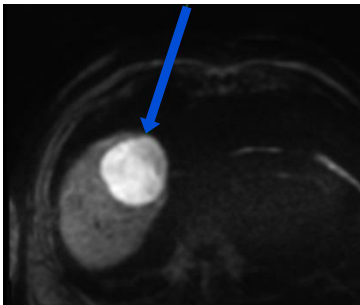
Arterial



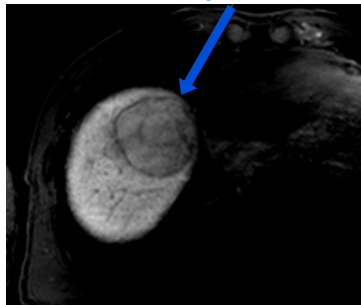
Delay



Diffusion



Hepatobiliary



✓ CBC: 4020-13.2- **99k**

✓ PT: 1.09 INR

✓ Albumin: 4.6 g/dl

✓ Bilirubin = 0.8 mg/dl

✓ AST/ALT: 24/10 U/L

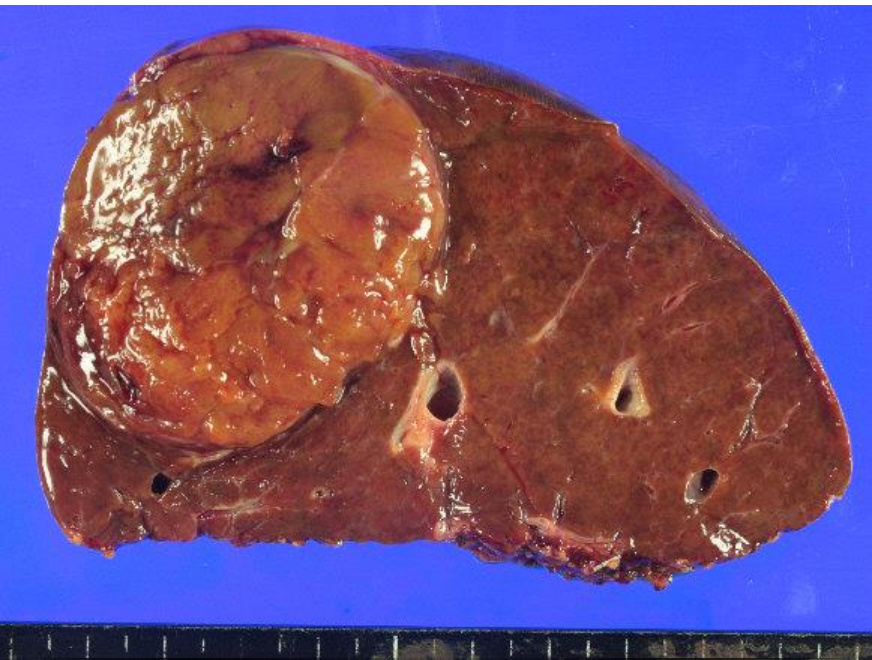
✓ AFP: 2.6 ng/ml

✓ HBV DNA: **83 IU/mL**

✓ HBeAg (-) HBeAb (+)



# Resection (segmentectomy)



## **Progressed hepatocellular carcinoma, S4/8:**

**Gross type** : Simple nodular type with extranodular growth

**Differentiation** : Edmondson grade II > I

**Histologic type** : pseudoglandular

**Cell type** : hepatic

**Tumor size** : 5.5x4.7x4 cm

**Tumor number** : one

**Fatty change** : no

**Microvessel invasion** : no

**Intrahepatic metastasis** (satellite nodule) : no

**Multicentric occurrence** : no

**Surgical margin invasion** : no (safety margin : 1 cm)

## Hepatocellular Carcinoma Risk in Chronic Hepatitis B Virus–Infected Compensated Cirrhosis Patients With Low Viral Load

Dong Hyun Sinn,<sup>1</sup> Junggyu Lee,<sup>1</sup> Juna Goo,<sup>2</sup> Kyunga Kim,<sup>2</sup> Geum-Youn Gwak,<sup>1</sup> Yong-Han Paik,<sup>1</sup> Moon Seok Choi,<sup>1</sup> Joon Hyeok Lee,<sup>1</sup> Kwang Cheol Koh,<sup>1</sup> Byung Chul Yoo,<sup>1</sup> and Seung Woon Paik<sup>1</sup>

A retrospective cohort of 385, treatment-naïve, HBV-related compensated cirrhosis patients at Samsung Medical Center

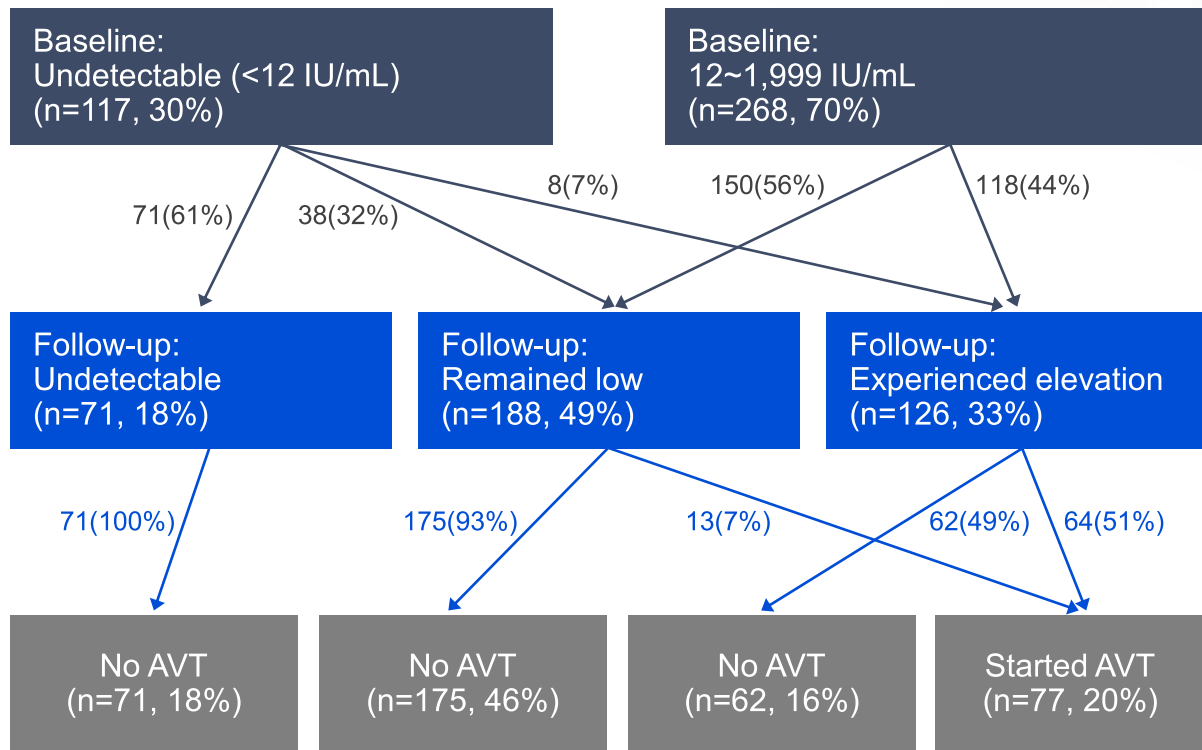
- ✓ Age:  $51.1 \pm 9.7$  years
- ✓ Male: 66%
- ✓ Median follow-up: 5.6 years
- ✓ HCC: 37 patients (9.6%)



# Baseline characteristics

Characteristics	All (n=385)	No HCC (n=348)	HCC (n=37)	P Value	No AVT (n=308)	AVT (n=77)	P Value
Age, years, mean $\pm$ SD	51.1 $\pm$ 9.7	50.7 $\pm$ 9.5	55.3 $\pm$ 10.4	0.006	51.8 $\pm$ 9.8	48.3 $\pm$ 9.0	0.005
Male, n (%)	252 (66)	228 (66)	24 (65)	0.93	202 (66)	50 (65)	0.91
HBeAg positive, n (%)	37 (10)	15 (4)	3 (8)	0.29	11 (4)	7 (9)	0.063
Cirrhosis, n (%)							
Thrombocytopenia ( $<150 \times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ )	329 (86)	298 (86)	31 (84)	0.76	266 (86)	63 (82)	0.31
Radiological findings*	204 (53)	184 (53)	20 (54)	0.89	154 (50)	50 (65)	0.019
Varices <sup>†</sup>	77 (27)	68 (26)	9 (32)	0.47	62 (27)	15 (25)	0.71
Child-Pugh score (%)				0.40			0.93
5	346 (90)	314 (90)	32 (87)		277 (90)	69 (90)	
6	39 (10)	34 (10)	5 (13)		31 (10)	8 (10)	
ALT, U/L, median (quartile)	25 (18-36)	25 (18-35)	28 (21-39)	0.27	24 (18-34)	30 (23-43)	0.001
Elevated ALT (%)	130 (34)	115 (33)	15 (41)	0.35	95 (31)	35 (46)	0.015
AST, U/L, median (quartile)	28 (22-36)	28 (22-25)	31 (25-41)	0.028	28 (22-34)	31 (25-39)	0.007
Albumin, mg/dL, median (quartile)	4.2 (4.0-4.4)	4.2 (4.1-4.4)	4.1 (3.9-4.4)	0.14	4.2 (4.0-4.4)	4.2 (4.0-4.3)	0.15
Bilirubin, mg/dL, median (quartile)	1.0 (0.7-1.3)	1.0 (0.7-1.3)	1.0 (0.7-1.2)	0.42	1.0 (0.7-1.3)	1.0 (0.7-1.3)	0.99
Platelet, $\times 10^3/\mu\text{L}$ , median (quartile)	127 (100-145)	128 (101-145)	119 (91-144)	0.20	129 (102-145)	120 (95-143)	0.10
AFP, ng/mL, median (quartile) <sup>‡</sup>	3.2 (2.4-5.2)	3.2 (2.4-4.9)	3.8 (2.7-8.5)	0.028	3.1 (2.4-4.8)	3.8 (2.7-6.5)	0.003
HBV-DNA levels at baseline				0.006			<0.001
Undetectable, $<12$ IU/mL (%)	117 (30)	113 (32)	4 (11)		113 (37)	4 (5)	
Low viral load, 12~1,999 IU/mL (%)	268 (70)	235 (68)	33 (89)		195 (63)	73 (95)	
HBV-DNA levels during follow-up (%)				0.091			<0.001
Remained undetectable	71 (18)	69 (20)	2 (5)		71 (23)	—	
Remained low viral load	188 (49)	166 (48)	22 (60)		175 (57)	13 (17)	
Experienced elevation ( $\geq 2,000$ IU/mL)	126 (33)	113 (32)	13 (35)		62 (20)	64 (83)	

# Flow diagram of patients by HBV DNA levels



# Baseline risk factors for HCC development

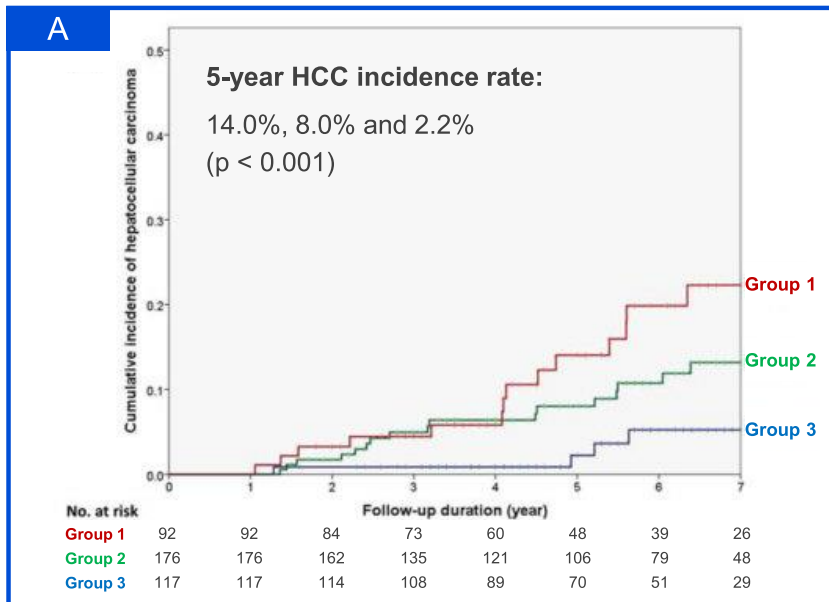
Baseline Factor	All (n=385)				Patients Without AVT During Follow-up (n=308)			
	Univariate		Multivariate		Univariate		Multivariate	
	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value
Age (/year)	1.05 (1.02-1.09)	0.004	1.06 (1.02-1.10)	0.002	1.03 (0.99-1.07)	0.074	1.04 (1.01-1.08)	0.045
Male (vs. female)	0.96 (0.49-1.89)	0.91			0.83 (0.39-1.75)	0.63		
HBeAg (+)	1.83 (0.56-6.00)	0.31			2.53 (0.60-10.6)	0.20		
Child score (6 vs. 5)	1.44 (0.56-3.71)	0.44			1.46 (0.51-4.21)	0.47		
ALT (/IU/mL)	1.01 (1.01-1.02)	0.010	1.01 (0.99-1.02)	0.34	1.01 (1.01-1.02)	0.001	1.01 (0.99-1.02)	0.20
AST (/IU/mL)	1.02 (1.01-1.04)	<0.001	1.01 (0.98-1.03)	0.35	1.03 (1.01-1.04)	<0.001	1.01 (0.98-1.03)	0.34
Albumin (/mg/dL)	0.35 (0.13-0.93)	0.036	0.71 (0.21-2.37)	0.58	0.24 (0.09-0.65)	0.005	0.36 (0.10-1.26)	0.11
Bilirubin (/mg/dL)	0.60 (0.29-1.23)	0.16			0.52 (0.23-1.20)	0.12		
Platelet (/×10 <sup>3</sup> /μL)	0.99 (0.99-1.01)	0.57			0.99 (0.99-1.01)	0.66		
AFP (/ng/mL)	1.01 (1.00-1.01)	<0.001	1.01 (1.00-1.01)	<0.001	1.01 (1.00-1.01)	<0.001	1.01 (1.00-1.01)	<0.001
Detectable HBV DNA (vs. undetectable)	3.84 (1.36-10.8)	0.011	5.20 (1.53-17.6)	0.008	4.18 (1.46-11.9)	0.008	5.90 (1.66-20.9)	0.006
Normal ALT*	3.32 (1.13-9.77)	0.029	5.52 (1.46-20.7)	0.011	3.08 (1.01-9.37)	0.047	4.74 (1.22-18.4)	0.025
Elevated ALT*	4.88 (1.60-14.8)	0.005	4.99 (1.38-18.0)	0.014	7.16 (2.30-22.2)	0.001	6.98 (1.90-25.6)	0.003

\* Adjusted model included age, ALT, AST, albumin, AFP, and HBV-DNA levels.

Elevated ALT is defined for ≥34 IU/L for men and ≥25 IU/L for women.

# Risk of HCC during follow-up

## All patients (n = 385)

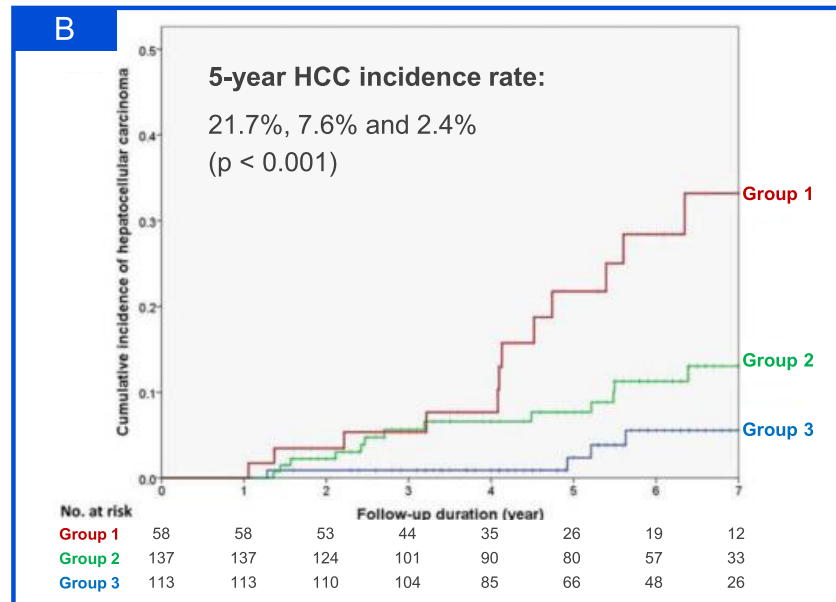


Group 1: patients with low HBV DNA levels plus elevated ALT levels

Group 2: patients with low HBV DNA levels plus normal ALT levels

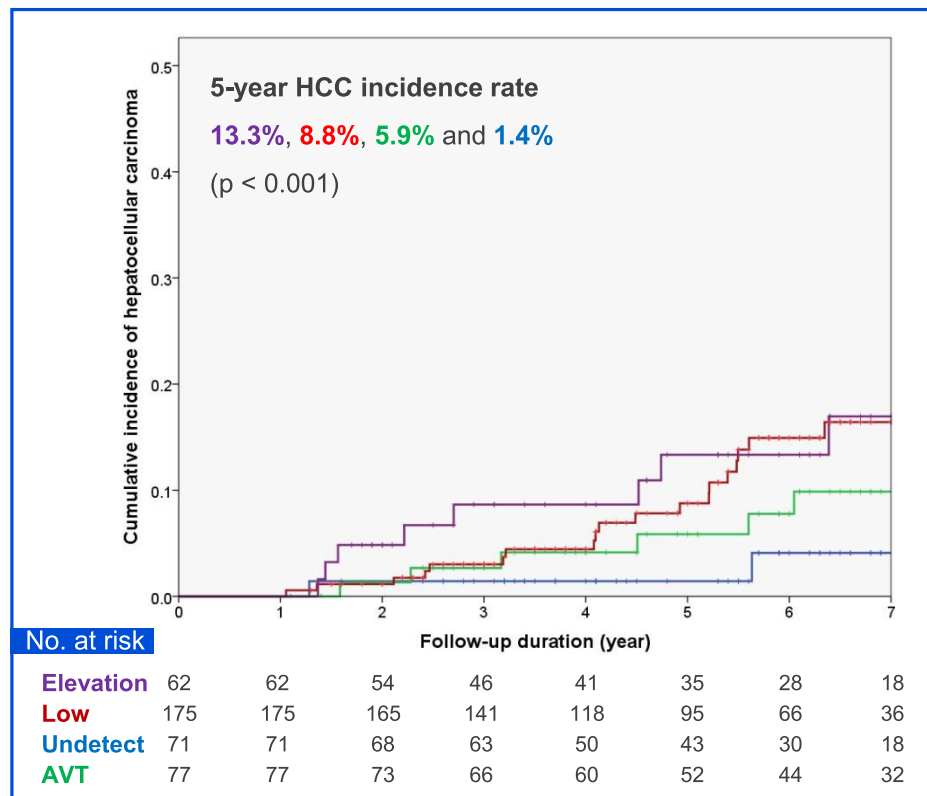
Group 3: patients with undetectable HBV DNA levels ( $< 12$  IU/ml)

## Patients without antiviral therapy during follow-up (n = 308)



Sinn DH et al., *Hepatology* 2015; 62:694

# HCC risk by change in HBV DNA levels during follow-up



**Table 4. Impact of AVT on the Development of HCC**

	All (n = 385)		Patients With Detectable HBV DNA at Baseline (n = 268)	
	Estimate* (95% CI)	P Value	Estimate* (95% CI)	P Value
AVT duration	-0.22 (-0.43~-0.01)	0.038	-0.29 (-0.51~-0.08)	0.008
CVR duration	-0.34 (-0.61~-0.06)	0.018	-0.42 (-0.71~-0.12)	0.005

\*Marginal structural Cox's proportional hazard model, which included age, peak HBV-DNA levels, and AVT duration or CVT duration was used to estimate impact of AVT. Detailed information for the model is shown in Supporting Tables 2-5.

Abbreviation: CI, confidence interval.

**HBV DNA Elevation over 2000 U/L**

**Remained low viremia**

**Started antiviral therapy**

**Remained Undetectable HBV DNA**

# Summary

Limitation: retrospective cohort, time to start AVT is different

## Findings

- ✓ Higher HCC risk of low viremic patients than those with undetectable HBV DNA levels.
- ✓ Patients with detectable but low viral load experienced HBV DNA elevation frequently.
- ✓ The risk of HCC was not low even if HBV DNA levels maintained at low levels for a long time.
- ✓ AVT or CVR duration was closely associated with reduced HCC risk.

Prompt AVT is better approach than monitoring

# Recommendation by international guidelines

## 2015 AASLD guideline

The AASLD suggests that adults with compensated cirrhosis and low levels of viremia ( $<2,000$  IU/mL) be treated with antiviral therapy to reduce the risk of decompensation, regardless of ALT level.

Quality/Certainly of Evidence: Very Low

Strength of Recommendation: Conditional



# Recommendation by international guidelines

## 2015 KASL guideline

Antiviral therapy can be considered when HBV DNA is  
HBV DNA is  $<2,000$  IU/mL to reduce the risk of decompensation  
regardless of AST/ALT levels for compensated cirrhosis patients. (C1)

# Treatment criteria for CHB

Liver disease severity	Liver society	HBV DNA, IU/mL	ALT
<b>Chronic hepatitis</b>	EASL, 2012	$\geq 2,000$	$\geq$ ULN
	AASLD, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times$ ULN
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times$ ULN
<b>Compensated cirrhosis</b>	EASL, 2012	Detectable	Any
	AASLD, 2015	Detectable	Any
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 2,000^*$	Any

*\*Treatment can be considered for those with  $< 2,000$  IU/mL*

# Definition of decompensation

Compensated cirrhosis

Decompensated cirrhosis

- ✓ Cirrhosis, complicated with ascites, variceal bleeding, hepatic encephalopathy or jaundice.
- ✓ Limited reserve.

# Treatment criteria for CHB

Liver disease severity	Liver society	HBV DNA, IU/mL	ALT
<b>Chronic hepatitis</b>	EASL, 2012	$\geq 2,000$	$\geq$ ULN
	AASLD, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times$ ULN
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times$ ULN
<b>Compensated cirrhosis</b>	EASL, 2012	Detectable	Any
	AASLD, 2015	Detectable	Any
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 2,000^*$	Any
<b>Decompensated cirrhosis</b>	EASL, 2012	Detectable	Any
	AASLD, 2015	Detectable	Any
	KASL, 2015	Detectable	Any

\*Treatment can be considered for those with  $< 2,000$  IU/mL

# B형간염 바이러스 농도 높고, 간수치도 높은 경우

39/M

B형간염, 수직감염(엄마+)

Ht = 165cm, Wt = 72kg (BMI = 26.4)

HBeAg+

HBV DNA = 12,590,000 IU/ml

AST/ALT = 78/120

US: chronic liver disease

Why we sometime don't treat  
immediately?

For those with high HBV DNA  
levels and elevated ALT levels?

# 2015 KASL recommendation

HBeAg positive CHB patients with HBV DNA  $\geq 20,000$  IU/ mL, plus serum AST or ALT  $\geq 2$  ULN or significant histologic changes such as inflammation or fibrosis ( $\geq$  moderate necroinflammation;  $\geq$  periportal fibrosis) on biopsy should be considered for treatment. (A1)

Treatment can be delayed for 3–6 months if spontaneous HBeAg seroconversion is expected. (B2)

However, patients with apparent or anticipated liver failure (i.e., those with jaundice, prolonged PT, hepatic encephalopathy, and ascites) should be treated promptly. (B1)

# Advantages and disadvantages of “Wait & See”

01 Naturally, some patients move to “**immune control**” state.

02 Not predictable

03 Risk of disease progression during wait !



# Predictive factors for early HBeAg seroconversion

Number of favorable predictors	Early HBeAg seroconversion (%)
0	3/27 (11%)
1	27/71 (38%)
2	9/12 (75%)

Favorable predictors:  
nonvertical transmission, low serm HBV DNA level (<7 log copies/ml)

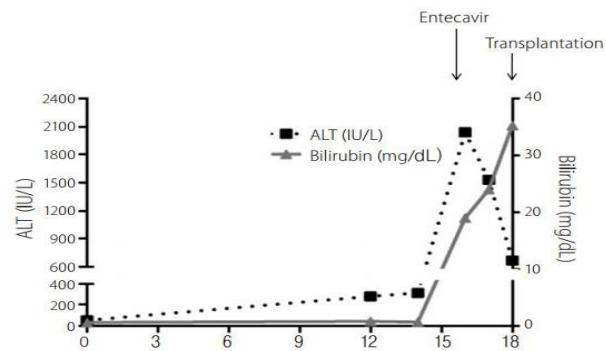
## Original Article

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3350/cmh.2014.20.4.355>  
Clinical and Molecular Hepatology 2014;20:355-360

## Is it necessary to delay antiviral therapy for 3–6 months to anticipate HBeAg seroconversion in patients with HBeAg-positive chronic hepatitis B in endemic areas of HBV genotype C?

Byung-Cheol Song, Yoo-Kyung Cho, Hyeyoung Jwa, Eun Kwang Choi, Heung Up Kim, Hyun Joo Song, Soo-Young Na, Sun-Jin Boo, and Seung Uk Jeong

Department of Internal Medicine, Jeju National University School of Medicine, Jeju, Korea



**Methods:** Ninety patients with HBeAg-positive CHB were followed prospectively without administering antiviral therapy for 6 months. Antiviral therapy was initiated promptly at any time if there was any evidence of biochemical (i.e., acute exacerbation of HBV infection or aggravation of jaundice) or symptomatic deterioration. After 6 months of observation, antiviral therapy was initiated according to the patient's ALT and HBV DNA levels.

**Results:** Only one patient (1.1%) achieved spontaneous HBeAg seroconversion. Biochemical and symptomatic deterioration occurred before 6 months in 17 patients (18.9%) and 5 patients, respectively. High ALT and HBV DNA levels were both independent risk factors for biochemical deterioration. Of 15 patients with HBV DNA  $\geq 5.1 \times 10^7$  IU/mL and ALT  $\geq 5 \times \text{ULN}$ , biochemical deterioration occurred in 7 (46.7%), including 1 patient receiving liver transplantation due to liver failure.

**Conclusions:** Spontaneous HBeAg seroconversion in patients with HBeAg-positive CHB is rare within 6 months. Biochemical deterioration was common and may lead to liver failure. Immediate antiviral therapy should be considered, especially in patients with high ALT and HBV DNA levels in endemic areas of genotype C infection. (*Clin Mol Hepatol* 2014;20:355-360)

# B형간염 바이러스 농도 높고, 간수치도 높은 경우

39/M

B형간염, 수직감염(엄마+)

Ht = 165cm, Wt = 72kg (BMI = 26.4)

HBeAg+

HBV DNA = 12,590,000 IU/ml

AST/ALT = 78/120

US: chronic liver disease

My choice: Prompt therapy

# B형간염 바이러스 농도 높은 HBeAb 양성 환자

51/M

B형간염

HBeAg- HBeAb+

HBV DNA = 890,000 IU/ml

AST/ALT = 78/98

US: chronic liver disease

01 이 사람은 자연적으로 DNA가 감소하여 inactive carrier로 될 수 있지 않을까?

02 관찰하는 것이 좋을까? 아니면 그냥 빨리 치료하는 것이 좋을까?

# What about HBeAg negative patients?

✓ 527 HBeAg negative patients with elevated HBV DNA levels ( $\geq 2,000$  IU/ml), followed-up SMC

**Table 1. Baseline characteristics and follow-up data**

Characteristics	All (n=527)	Cirrhosis (+) (n=218)	Cirrhosis (-) (n=309)	P value
<b>Baseline characteristics</b>				
Age (years)	48.8 $\pm$ 9.9	51.5 $\pm$ 8.7	46.8 $\pm$ 10.2	<0.001
Male (n, %)	311 (59.0)	141(64.7)	170(55.0)	0.03
AST (U/L)	34 (25-54)	43(30-63)	29(23-47)	<0.001
ALT (U/L)	37 (24-66)	40(27-69)	34(22-63)	0.01
Albumin (mg/dl)	4.4 (4.1-4.6)	4.3(3.9-4.5)	4.5(4.3-4.7)	<0.001
Bilirubin (mg/dl)	0.8(0.6-1.1)	0.9(0.7-1.2)	0.8(0.6-1.0)	<0.001
PT (INR)	1.0(1.0-1.1)	1.1(1.0-1.2)	1.0(1.0-1.1)	<0.001
Platelet ( $\times 10^3$ /L)	168(128-210)	118(94-138)	199(173-229)	<0.001
HBV DNA ( $\log_{10}$ IU/ml)	4.9 $\pm$ 1.2	5.1 $\pm$ 1.3	4.7 $\pm$ 1.1	<0.001
qHBsAg ( $\log_{10}$ IU/ml)	3.3 $\pm$ 0.6	3.2 $\pm$ 0.6	3.4 $\pm$ 0.6	<0.001
<b>Follow-up data</b>				
AVT during follow-up (n, %)	311(59.0)	175(80.3)	136(44.0)	<0.001
Disease progression (n, %)	46(8.7)	39(17.9)	7(2.3)	<0.001
HCC	40(7.6)	33(15.1)	7(2.3)	<0.001
Cirrhotic complication	6(1.1)	6(2.8)	0(0)	0.01
Inactive carrier (n,%)	31(5.9)		31(10.0)	

# What about HBeAg negative patients?

Groups	Disease progression			Inactive carrier		
	Person-years of follow-up	3year	5year	Person-years of follow-up	3year	5year
<b>Age &lt; 50 years(n=180)</b>						
Group A (n=38)	155	0%	0%	119	25.1%	39.5%
Group B (n=45)	172	0%	0%	163	10.1%	10.1%
Group C (n=35)	133	4.2%	4.2%	131	3.8%	7.9%
Group D (n=62)	238	1.8%	1.8%	241	0%	0%
<b>Age &gt; 50 years(n=129)</b>						
Group A (n=36)	121	3.6%	3.6%	108	13.1%	42.2%
Group B (n=30)	107	3.6%	3.6%	93	17.5%	17.5%
Group C (n=32)	113	5.6%	5.6%	113	0%	0%
Group D (n=31)	104	3.4%	3.4%	108	0%	0%

Group	HBV DNA (IU/mL)	qHBsAg (IU/mL)
A	<20,000	<2,500
B	<20,000	≥2,500
C	≥20,000	<2,500
D	≥20,000	≥2,500

## Key message

Don't wait too long for older patients  
HBV DNA & qHBsAg can risk-stratify  
treatment policy

Sinn DH et al., PLOSone 2015;10:e0144777

# B형간염 바이러스 농도 높은 HBeAb 양성 환자

51/M

B형간염

HBeAg- HBeAb+

HBV DNA = 890,000 IU/ml

AST/ALT = 78/98

US: chronic liver disease

My choice:  
Prompt therapy



# Summary

Determine severity of liver disease and CHB phase

## Hepatitis

ALT 상승된 사람은 “**immune control status**” 진행될 가능성을 살펴보아,  
높지 않으면 바로 치료 시작

▶ HBeAg (+) HBV DNA, transmission mode

▶ HBeAg (-) Age, HBV DNA, qHBsAg

ALT 정상 또는 경미하게 상승된 사람은?

# CASE

48/M

B형간염

HBeAg+

HBV DNA = 2,090,000 IU/mL

AST/ALT = 38/26

US: chronic liver disease

# Study design, setting and participants

- ✓ Derivation cohort (n = 971, Samsung Medical Center)
- ✓ Validation cohort (n = 507, Seoul National University Hospital)

## Inclusion criteria

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 01 | aged 18 years or older   |
| 02 | chronic HBV infection (HBsAg + for 6 months or clinical history)     |
| 03 | No evidence of any of the following clinical indicators of cirrhosis |
| 04 | <b>Serum HBV DNA <math>\geq</math> 2000 IU/ml</b> at the baseline    |
| 05 | No previous history or current use of antiviral therapy              |
| 06 | <b>Serum aminotransferase (ALT/AST) <math>&lt;</math> 80 U/L</b>     |

## Exclusion criteria

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 01 | Co-infection with HCV or HIV   |
| 02 | Follow-up duration less than six months or started AVT within six months |
| 03 | HCC detected within six months   |
| 04 | Presence of other malignant tumor  |

# Baseline characteristics

Characteristics	Derivation (n = 971)	No HCC (n = 945)	HCC (n = 26)	P value
Age (years, mean $\pm$ S.D)	42.6 $\pm$ 10.6	42.4 $\pm$ 10.5	51.4 $\pm$ 10.8	<0.001
Male (n, %)	564 (58.1)	544 (57.6)	20 (76.9)	0.048
HBeAg positive (n, %)	547 (56.3)	535 (56.6)	12 (46.2)	0.28
HBV DNA levels ( )	5.95 $\pm$ 1.84	5.96 $\pm$ 1.85	5.74 $\pm$ 1.27	0.55
ALT (U/L, median, quartile)	34 (23-49)	34 (23-49)	37 (26-52)	0.28
AST (U/L, median, quartile)	29 (23-37)	29 (23-37)	31 (26-38)	0.076
Platelet (X 103/L, median, quartile)	205 (182-238)	206 (183-239)	186 (170-214)	0.023
REACH-B score (median, quartile)	10 (8-11)	10 (8-11)	12 (10-13)	<0.001
FIB-4 score	1.02 (0.72-1.40)	1.01 (0.71-1.38)	1.57 (1.22-1.87)	<0.001

# Treatment criteria for CHB

Liver disease severity	Liver society	HBV DNA, IU/mL	ALT
Chronic hepatitis	EASL, 2012	$\geq 2,000$	$\geq \text{ULN}$
	AASLD, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times \text{ULN}$
	KASL, 2015	$\geq 20,000$ (e+), $\geq 2,000$ (e-)	$\geq 2 \times \text{ULN}$

EASL 은 간수치가 ULN만 넘어도 치료하라고 권고하고 있음.  
AASLD는 50세 넘으면 Biopsy를 고려하라고 되어 있음

# AUROC Comparison between risk scores

Year	Age	ALT
1	79.4 (66.1-92.7)	41.8 (36.0-47.5)
2	73.2 (59.6-86.8)	65.4 (52.3-78.4)
3	73.9 (61.5-86.2)	66.6 (54.7-78.3)
4	72.8 (60.1-85.3)	69.9 (59.8-80.0)
5	71.8 (58.4-85.2)	76.6 (68.4-84.7)
6	65.6 (49.6-81.5)	74.8 (65.0-84.5)

나이와 ALT가 간암의 발생과  
연관은 있으나 AUROC가  
41.8% - 76.6% (ALT),  
65.5%-79.4% (나이) 정도의  
AUROCS로 충분하지 않음

# Risk factor for HCC development

	Model 1		Model 2		Model 3	
	HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value
Log (HBV DNA)	1.10 (0.94-1.29)	0.21	27.6 (7.43-102.7)	<0.001	18.7 (5.51-63.9)	<0.001
Log (HBVDNA) <sup>Δ2</sup>	-	-	0.88 (0.84-0.93)	<0.001	0.90 (0.86-0.94)	<0.001
Age (year)	1.09 (1.04-1.13)	<0.001	1.09 (1.04-1.14)	<0.001	1.07 (1.03-1.10)	<0.001
Female	0.37 (0.14-0.94)	0.038	0.37 (0.14-0.96)	0.042	0.28 (0.11-0.70)	0.006
HBeAg (+)	0.74 (0.20-2.69)	0.65	0.91 (0.36-2.28)	0.84		
ALT (/IU/ml)	1.01 (0.99-1.02)	0.16	1.02 (1.00-1.04)	0.022		
AST (/IU/ml)	0.99 (0.96-1.03)	0.94	0.96 (0.92-1.01)	0.13		
Platelet (/X 10 <sup>3</sup> /L)	0.99 (0.97-1.00)	0.099	0.99 (0.98-1.00)	0.25		
Elevated ALT*	0.71 (0.27-1.89)	0.50	0.38 (0.13-1.10)	0.075		

# D<sup>2</sup>AS risk model for HCC

## D<sup>2</sup>AS model

$2.9325 * \log(\text{HBV DNA IU/mL})$

$- 0.10527 * \log(\text{HBV DNA IU/mL})^2$

$+ 0.07013 * \text{age (years)}$

$+ -1.27223 * (2 \text{ if female, } 1 \text{ if male})$

## D<sup>2</sup>AS Risk score

$(\text{D}^2\text{AS model value} - 15)/5 * 2$



# Comparison between risk scores

Year	D <sup>2</sup> AS score	Age	ALT	HBV DNA	REACH-B	FIB-4
1	70.0 (54.8-84.9)	79.4 (66.1-92.7)*	41.8 (36.0-47.5)*	53.0 (15.4-90.6)	72.3 (60.0-84.4)	68.8 (32.2-99.9)
2	87.8 (79.9-95.7)	73.2 (59.6-86.8)*	65.4 (52.3-78.4)*	53.6 (43.1-64.1)*	78.6 (66.3-90.8)	74.5 (59.8-89.1)*
3	89.5 (82.3-96.6)	73.9 (61.5-86.2)*	66.6 (54.7-78.3)*	55.9 (46.4-65.3)*	81.4 (70.3-92.4)	75.9 (62.2-89.6)*
4	88.4 (81.7-94.9)	72.8 (60.1-85.3)*	69.9 (59.8-80.0)*	55.5 (47.6-63.3)*	75.0 (59.5-90.3)*	75.0 (64.3-85.6)*
5	88.4 (81.2-95.5)	71.8 (58.4-85.2)*	76.6 (68.4-84.7)*	55.6 (48.4-62.7)*	81.2 (70.7-91.6)	70.2 (56.2-84.1)*
6	88.2 (81.5-94.8)	65.6 (49.6-81.5)*	74.8 (65.0-84.5)*	60.4 (53.0-67.7)*	78.2 (67.2-89.1)*	64.1 (51.0-77.0)*

# Performance of D<sup>2</sup>AS risk score

## Derivation (n = 971)

## Validation (n = 507)

Time	HCC	Survivors	Censored	AUROC (95% CI)	Time	HCC	Survivors	Censored	AUROC (95% CI)
<b>1 year</b>	3	886	82	70.0 (54.8-84.9)	<b>1 year</b>	3	463	41	95.1 (90.8-99.4)
<b>2 year</b>	10	727	234	87.8 (79.9-95.7)	<b>2 year</b>	7	420	80	94.2 (90.1-98.4)
<b>3 year</b>	11	584	376	89.5 (82.3-96.6)	<b>3 year</b>	11	382	114	88.9 (79.6-98.3)
<b>4 year</b>	13	460	498	88.4 (81.7-94.9)	<b>4 year</b>	13	353	141	88.0 (79.8-96.2)
<b>5 year</b>	19	331	621	88.4 (81.2-95.5)	<b>5 year</b>	13	265	229	87.6 (78.9-96.3)
<b>6 year</b>	21	229	721	88.2 (81.5-94.8)	<b>6 year</b>	15	127	365	77.8 (66.3-89.2)

# Risk of HCC according to D<sup>2</sup>AS score

## Derivation

## Validation

Risk group by	Very low	Low	Intermediate	High	Very low	Low	Intermediate	High
D <sup>2</sup> AS score	< 1.0	1.0-1.9	2.0-2.5	≥ 2.5	< 1.0	1.0-1.9	2.0-2.5	≥ 2.5
Number	48	537	246	140	38	268	106	92
Risk score	0.9 ± 0.1	1.6 ± 0.3	2.2 ± 0.1	2.8 ± 0.2	0.8 ± 0.2	1.5 ± 0.3	2.2 ± 0.1	2.8 ± 0.2
HCC, n (%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (0.6%)	6 (2.4%)	17 (12.1%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.4%)	2 (1.8 %)	12 (13.0%)
Incidence								
3 years	0	0.2	0.9	7.3	0	0.5	0	12.5
5 years	0	0.7	2.7	17.8	0	0.5	1.1	13.8

# Don't rely too much on ALT levels

01 Minor, but significant proportion of patients developed HCC in patients with elevated HBV DNA levels and normal or mildly increased ALT levels.

02 The D<sup>2</sup>AS risk score can play a valuable role in risk stratification, and may be useful to guide clinical decisions for enhanced surveillance or treatment to reduce HCC risk in this population.

# HCC risk score in index patients

48/M

B형간염

HBeAg+

HBV DNA = 2,090,000 IU/mL

AST/ALT = 38/26

US: chronic liver disease

## D<sup>2</sup>AS score

3.0

(high risk,  
14 ~ 18% at 5 -years)

# Take Home message

01

HBV DNA 농도가 높은 사람들은 AST/ALT가 정상 범위여도 주위가 필요한 분들이 있습니다.

02

D<sup>2</sup>AS model과 같은 Risk model들을 임상결정에 보다 적극적으로 활용해 보세요.

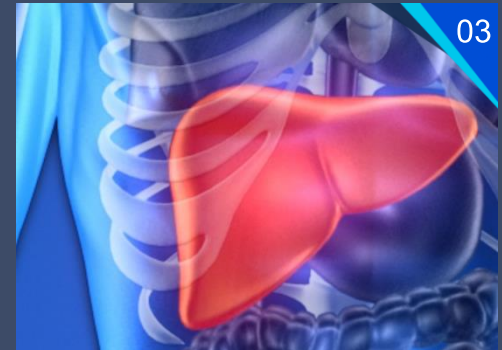
# What is option?



Observation



Biopsy



Treatment

# Personal indication

## Determine severity of liver disease and CHB phase

1

### Hepatitis

ALT 상승

자연적으로 면역조절기로  
갈 가능성을 평가

ALT 정상

Risk model로 위험도 평가

2

### Compensated cirrhosis

보험만족시 바로 치료시작  
(비보험치료 적극 고려)

3

### Decompensated cirrhosis

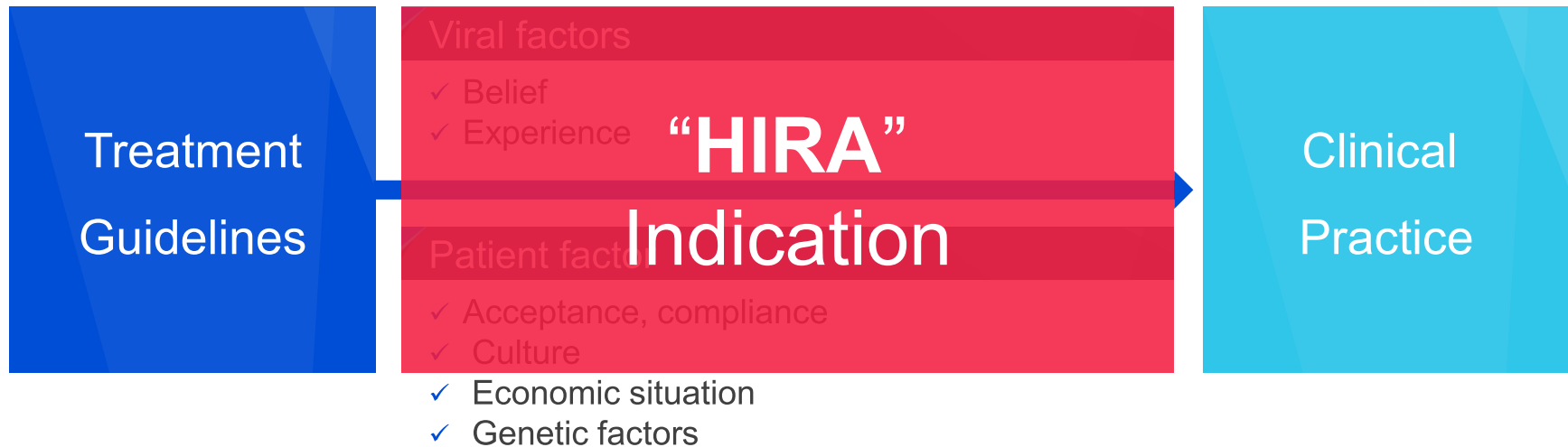
바로 치료시작



# Ideal situation



# Real life situation



# HIRA indication

HIRA (Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service)

HBe + hepatitis	ALT $\geq$ 80, DNA $\geq$ 20,000 IU/ml
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HBe – hepatitis	ALT $\geq$ 80, DNA $\geq$ 2,000 IU/ml
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Cirrhosis	Any ALT, DNA $\geq$ 2,000 IU/ml
-----------	---------------------------------

Decompensated cirrhosis, HCC	Any ALT, DNA detectable
------------------------------	-------------------------

Thank you  
for your attention

SAMSUNG

SAMSUNG  
MEDICAL CENTER



SUNG KYUNKWAN  
UNIVERSITY (SKKU)